

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Robert F. Sheppard	Examiner:	Neil R. Kardos
Serial No.:	10/763,072	Group Art Unit:	3623
Filed:	January 21, 2004	Docket No.:	200901410-1
Title:	MANAGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) INFRASTRUCTURE OF AN ENTERPRISE USING A CENTRALIZED LOGISTICS AND MANAGEMENT (CLAM) TOOL		

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Sir/Madam:


I, Robert F. Sheppard, declare as follows:

1. I am the named inventor of the subject matter described and claimed in the above-identified U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 filed January 21, 2004.

2. I was an employee of Electronic Data Systems Corporation at the time of the invention described and claimed in the above identified U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 filed January 21, 2004.

3. I assigned all right, title, and interest in and to the invention described and claimed in the above identified U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 filed January 21, 2004 to Electronic Data Systems Corporation, where the chain of title passed from me to Electronic Data Systems Corporation, then to Electronic Data Systems, LLC, and then to Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP.

4. I make this Declaration in support of the patentability of the claims of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 filed January 21, 2004 in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 20, 2011 rejecting claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9, 16-19, 22, 23, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by O'Connor et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0138074 ("O'Connor"), and rejecting claims 4, 5, 8, 20, 21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor in view of Gullotta et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,985,955, and rejecting claims 10 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor in view of Official Notice, and rejecting claims 11-14 and 27-30



under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor in view of Northcutt U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0126001. For purposes of the Final Office Action mailed January 20, 2011, the earliest prior art date for U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0138074 to O'Connor et al. is its filing date of December 22, 2003.

5. Prior to the December 22, 2003 filing date of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0138074 to O'Connor et al., cited by the Office Action as referenced above, I conceived the above-identified and claimed subject matter of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072. The claimed subject matter was constructively reduced to practice via the filing of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 on January 21, 2004. As factual evidence of my conception prior to December 22, 2003, attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein, are Exhibits A-C.

6. Exhibit A is an e-mail correspondence from Chad Terrell at Baker Botts L.L.P. in Dallas, Texas to Robert F. Sheppard. Exhibit B is a draft patent application, of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072, attached to the e-mail correspondence of Exhibit A. Exhibit C are draft drawings, for U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072, attached to the e-mail correspondence of Exhibit A. The e-mail correspondence and the attached draft of the patent application and drawings were produced prior to the earliest date for U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0138074 to O'Connor et al., which is its filing date of December 22, 2003. The draft patent application of Exhibit B and the drawings of Exhibit C describe the subject matter of the present patent application and support that the claimed invention of the present patent application was conceived prior to December 22, 2003.

7. After conceiving the claimed invention of the present application, I diligently filed U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 on January 21, 2004, as described in Paragraph 8.

8. A final draft of the patent application was filed as U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072 on January 21, 2004 by Christopher W. Kennerly, registration number 40,675, of Baker Botts L.L.P.

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9. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,072, was conceived prior to December 22, 2003 and diligently filed with the U.S.P.T.O. Thus, the U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0138074 to O'Connor et al. reference should be removed as a reference under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

10. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or patent issued thereon.

  
Robert F. Sheppard

18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011  
Date

